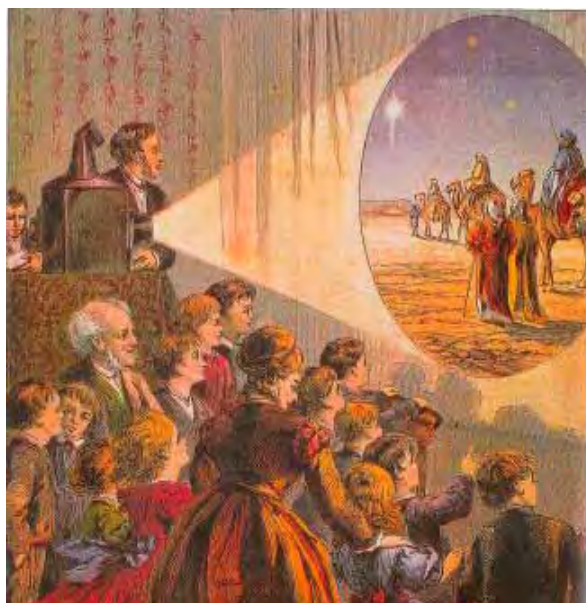


# December

Be Sure to LOOK for those Buttons and  
roll-over effects

Magic Lantern Society **NEWS**

2010



May you have a Happy and Memorable  
Holiday Season!



## DoNArTNeWs

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• SAWS/TPC

Selections From Cluster @ CEVA

Charles Rodman Pancoast "Magic Lantern" Glass  
Slides @ The Franklin Institute

001-299: Miyajima



The image above is a digital photo of a projected "Magic Lantern" glass slide that was digitally scanned which DoN compressed for viewing on the web, a long way for a photo to travel. April 14th, 2010 The Geographic Society Of Philadelphia invited members of The Photographic Society of Philadelphia to view glass slides of a travelogue through Japan by Charles R. Pancoast, an early member of PSoP, from the beginning of the 20th Century in Franklin Hall @ The Franklin Institute.

The invitation only viewing of the slides, not seen since the 1960s, was hosted by Senior Curator of Collections, John V. Alvin, who explained the origins of glass slide projections with the "Magic Lantern" and guided our tour of absolutely exquisite, engrossing, detailed, immediate, gloriously colorful photographs of life, architecture, landscape and fashion in early 1900s Japan.

From:

<http://brewermultimedia.com/2010/04/28/charles-rodman-pancoast-magic-lantern-glass-slides-the-franklin-institute/>

December 2010

## Greetings to All Members.

## *Happy Holidays*



In Late October we had a wonderful week with Ludwig Vogel and Karin Bienek from Munich, Germany. Those of you who were at the Convention in Bloomington will remember Karin's Serpentine Dance which closed the Variety Show on Friday Night. They were here in the states for a month, visiting around the US for their research on the use of the magic lantern in Social Service organizations and as a tool for social service purposes. One evening, Sara Dendas and Dick Moore, Kent and Marta Wells, and Nancy Stewart (our wonderful soprano and pianist) joined us for dinner, lots of magic lantern talk and laughter.

After Ludwig and Karin left here, they went to NYC, then on to DC to see Tom Rall. I think The Magic Lantern Castle and Jack Judson were next, followed by a stop in Bloomington with Davis Francis and Joss Marsh. They were to end their trip back in Boston with Dick Balzer and Harvard's Social History Museum. Wouldn't it be wonderful to take the time to do a month

of studying magic lanterns with others in the society? I encourage you to consider this, knowing that many members would be delighted to share their knowledge and help with expenses by putting you up. I hope many of you were able to catch the first segment of "Moguls and Movie Stars" on Turner Classic Movie Channel. Terry was on longer than we had dared hope but not nearly as long as that day of filming. It is amazing how little they used after over 8 hours of work.

A quick plug for the Gazette: Several of you promised articles and I hope that you have or are writing them now. Kent can not be expected to do all the work.

Best Wishes for the up-coming Holiday Season and for the New Year to you all

Sincerely,  
Debbie Borton, Pres.





## *Santa Claus on a Lark*

Washington Gladden

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NEW YORK  
THE CENTURY CO.  
1890

## **Santa Claus on a lark: and other Christmas stories**

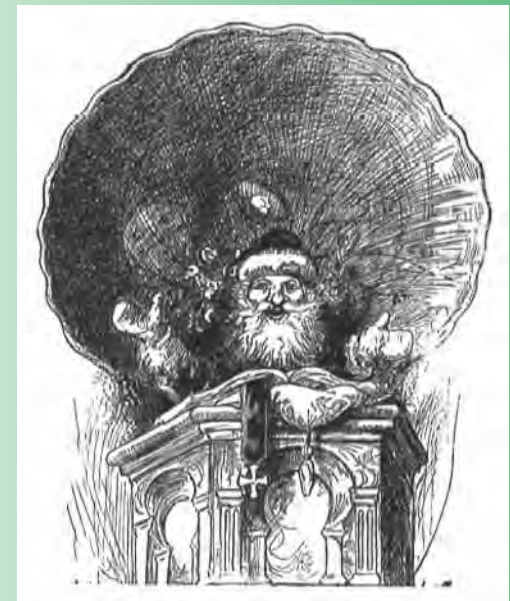
*By Washington Gladden*  
**from the Christmas story**

### **Santa Claus in the Pulpit**

...When the sermon began, Mortimer fully determined to hear and remember just as much of it as he could. The text was those words of the Lord Jesus that Paul remembered and reported for us, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." And Doctor Burrows began by saying that everybody believed that, at Christmas-time; in fact, they knew it; they found it out by experience; and that was what made Christmas the happiest day of the year. Mortimer blushed again, and glanced up at his father; but there was no answering glance; his father's eyes were fixed upon the preacher. The argument of the sermon was a little too deep for Mortimer, though he understood parts of it, and tried hard to understand it all; but there was a register in the aisle

near by, and the church was very warm, and he began looking down, and after awhile the voice of the preacher ceased, and he looked up to see what was the matter, and there in the pulpit was—who was it? Could it be?

It was a very small man, with long white hair and beard, and ruddy cheeks, and sparkling eyes, and brisk motions. Yes; Mortimer had quite made up his own mind that it must be he, when a boy by his side, whom he had not noticed before, whispered: "Santa Claus!"



*continued next page*

## Santa Claus in the Pulpit continued



Illustration by R.F. Bunner

This was very queer indeed. At least it seemed so at first; but when Mortimer began to reason about it, he saw at once that Santa Claus, being a saint, had a perfect right to be in the pulpit. But soon this did not seem, after all, very much like a pulpit; it had changed to a broad platform, and the rear was a white screen against the wall; and in place of a desk was a curious instrument, on a tripod, looking something like a photographer's camera and something like a stereopticon.

Santa Claus was standing by the side of this instrument, and was just beginning to speak when Mortimer looked up. This was what he heard:

“Never heard me preach before, did you? No. Talking is not my trade. But the wise man says there's a time to speak as well as a time to keep silence. I've kept my mouth shut tight for several hundred years; now I'm going to open it. But my sermon will be illustrated. See this curious machine?” and he laid his hand on the instrument by his side; “it's a wonderbox; it will show you some queer pictures-queerest you ever saw.”

“Let's see 'em!” piped out a youngster from the front seats. The congregation smiled and rustled, and Santa Claus went on:

Wait a bit, my little man. You'll see all you want to see very soon, and maybe more. I've been in this Christmas business now for a great many years, and I've been watching the way people take their presents, and what they do with them, and what effect the giving and the taking has upon the givers and takers; and I have come to the conclusion that Christmas certainly is not a blessing to everybody. ...

*If you would like to download this book and its stories about Christmas click the following:*  
[\*Santa Claus on a Lark\*](#)





## More Shows for 2010 List

### From John and Betty Potter

Betty and I will be giving a magic lantern show for the Karshner Museum, December 4. This is a museum operated by the Puyallup school district. We will be giving several short shows during the day. We hope this will allow us to give a full show for the school. This gives us an introduction to the Puyallup school system. This may be a good opportunity for us to introduce the magic lantern to the Puyallup school system.

John

### From Suzanne Wray

On October 30, I saw Terry Borton's Halloween show at the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum here in NY. As always, excellent. I attended the 8 pm show; I would assume most children went to the earlier show. It is always fun to see the reaction to the show: I was sitting next to a man of perhaps 30, who loved every minute of the show and was wowed by the chromotropes, etc. And the jaded New Yorkers all joined in to speak or sing as directed. Afterwards a crowd gathered around the lantern to see it and the slides.

**Share Information  
About Shows  
Add to our list for 2010**

**Please send information about shows or displays you have done or planned for 2010. We will publish that listing showing the media is alive and well. Deadline Jan 2, 2011. Send to Larry.**



### From Daan Buddingh

Just to let you know that my wife Ankie and I will present a Christmas lantern show on Sunday 19. December 2010. (20.00 - 22.00). We then will use our Franks' bi-unial from 1892.

Some of the 12 programme items of our show: Dogs and monks of St. Bernhard, The miracle in Bethlehem, Wintercircus Laterna Magica, Willy's Rose, Happy days are here again, A Christmas Carol.

This will be in the theatre hall of 'Het Oude Slot' in Heemstede, The Netherlands. The target audience consists of Friends of Het Oude Slot.

A pity for all MLS members in the USA and Canada: the show is already fully booked.

Of late three years we have given short lantern shows at primary schools for youngsters of 4, 5 and 6 years old. We there started with a workshop about light and pre-cinema projection, followed by a 30 minute lantern show.

Very rewarding to confront those kids with this cultural heritage.

Best regards from The Netherlands,

### From Shel Izen

Magic Lantern Reveals Mysteries of Snowflakes

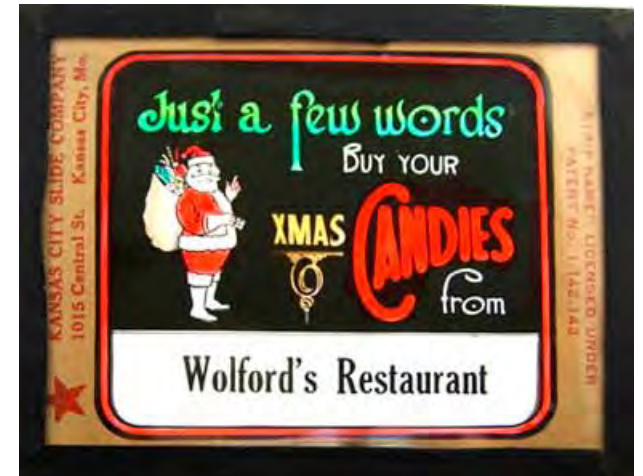
The Coeur d'Alene Public Library will host a Magic Lantern Show Wednesday, Nov. 17, at 7 p.m. with a program that will feature the world of snowflake crystals.

Presented by Shel Izen using his vintage lantern projector and antique slides from the Walter A. Bentley collection of crystals.

Izen explains that Bentley was the son of Vermont farmers in the late 19th century. His mother had been a schoolteacher, and when Bentley was 15 he was given an old microscope leftover from her teaching years. He began then to explore his word close-up, and discovered the beauty of snow crystals.



## Christmas Slides



Can you find the two hidden Christmas slides on pages 6 and 7?



## More Christmas Slides



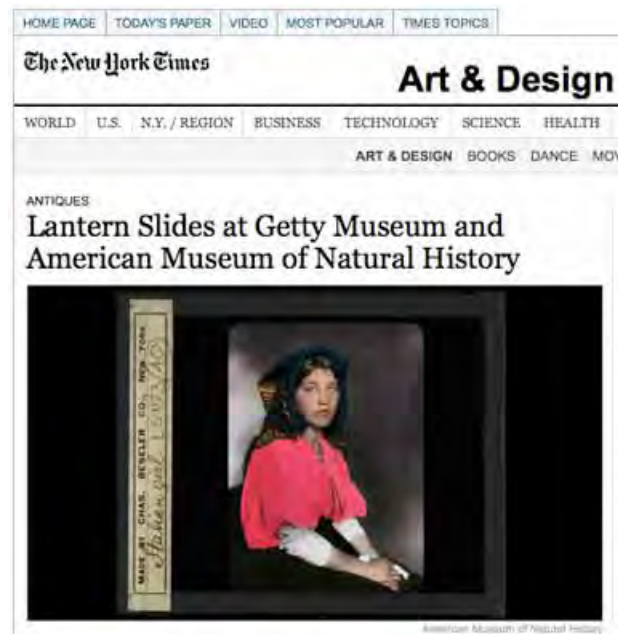
## Lantern Slides at Getty Museum and American Museum of Natural History

By EVE M. KAHN Published: November 4, 2010  
A COLORFUL HISTORY,

Real or Not

Explorers and missionaries around 1900 drummed up support for their travels by giving illustrated lectures back home. They fed hand-tinted glass slides into projecting lanterns, then watched potential patrons' jaws drop as the auditorium walls filled with Arizona canyons at sunset or crowds of Chinese children wearing embroidered robes.

After World War II, when the lantern technology became obsolete, the slides were destroyed in untold numbers. Institutions that still own boxfuls are now figuring out how to put them back on display.



"Italian Girl," a lantern slide from the American Museum of Natural History collection, in the Margaret Mead festival.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/05/arts/design/05antiques.html?\\_r=1&src=twrhp](http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/05/arts/design/05antiques.html?_r=1&src=twrhp)

## Thank you Gregg Millet



Clip from TCM's History of the Movies

Click on this link to view the piece that was done for the introduction to the  
**TCM broadcast November 1**

<http://blip.tv/file/4328779>

Gregg was kind enough to record and share this clip.

**Next Month's Issue**  
**Group NW 2011 Meetings and**  
**Show Schedule and the Dates for**  
**Convention 2012!**  
**Hope to see you in Tacoma 2012**

## Welcome New Members

**November 2010**

Kristina Jorgensen  
Southbury CT  
Graphic Designer  
Website: [www.jorgensendesign.com](http://www.jorgensendesign.com)

*A Big Thank You to the following:*

**Debbie Borton**  
**Daan Buddingh**

**Shel Izen**

**John & Betty Potter**

**Kentwood D. Wells**

**Terry Borton**  
**Ron Easterday**

**Gregg Millet**

**Larry Rakow**

**Suzanne Wray**

*for contributing to this month's issue.*

## Now it's your turn to share!

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society? If your answer is yes! Send site information or your images to Larry and they will be shared in the next E-pub newsletter.

**E-mail Larry**





### ANTIQUE GERMAN MAGIC LANTERN PROJECTOR IN BOX

Ended: Nov 08, 2010

Bid history: 12 bids Winning bid: US \$164.75

Shipping: \$20.20

This is a wonderful antique german magic lantern projector that I recently purchased at an estate auction. It appears to be all there and has it's original box. There are no slides but there are tickets to see the show and instructions that are coming apart. I understand that this was made probably in the late 1800's or possibly early 1900's.

**Hopefully the winning bidder will do better at putting the lantern together!**



### Antique Ersnt Plank Germany made kids magic projector

Time left: Nov 24, 2010

Bid history: 0 bids

Starting bid: US \$100.00

Shipping: \$10.27 Economy Shipping

Item location: Dubuque, IA

Selling a very rare Germany made Ersnt Plank Projector. This magic projector was used with oil to reflect the light threw the movies and slides. I was told it was from about the late 1800's or around 1900. It has a label on it with E.P. and Germany. It is a kids size. It has some rust but could be restore as it has all the parts from what I can see. The chimney and lens has the rust. The movie wheel does turn freely. It is about 10" H. 5" W. and 8" L. It has the box but it is fragile. This is a unusual piece even with the rust, it would be a great find.



Wonder what a lot of rust would look like?

## The Phantasmagoria meets Criminal Minds

From  
Kentwood D. Wells



Criminal Minds is a popular television show in which members of the FBI's Behavioral Analysis Unit tracks down serial killers. The October 27 episode, entitled "Burnt Alive," begins with Dr. Spencer Reed, the nerdy analyst with a photographic memory, giving his colleagues a complete history of Halloween. One character says, "All I asked was what he was doing this weekend." Dr. Reed then says that he is either planning to attend an Edgar Allan Poe shadow play, or a reenactment of a 19th century Phantasmagoria. He goes on to explain, correctly, that the phantasmagoria was a pre-cinema ghost show employing science magic. Unfortunately, the team then is called in to catch a serial killer in Detroit, and the phantasmagoria show never takes place. You can find a short clip including the description of the phantasmagoria at:  
There is a violent beginning.  
(Copy and paste this into your browser)  
[http://www.cbs.com/primetime/criminal\\_minds/video/?pid=wK3\\_uSdL\\_RDhKWs8LNW\\_oa6IqQuO2e3c&nrd=1](http://www.cbs.com/primetime/criminal_minds/video/?pid=wK3_uSdL_RDhKWs8LNW_oa6IqQuO2e3c&nrd=1)  
(see the last segment of the 5-minute clip).



More  
Phantasmagoria  
**Create Your  
Own  
Next  
Halloween**

**From Larry Cederblom**

The lantern is a great tool to create the phantasmagoria effect of large projected image hovering in the trees and bushes, welcoming those trick-or-treaters.

All that is needed is a projector like the Victor Portable Stereopticon, simple black and white slides and large bushes and trees in your yard or the neighbors

The effect of the slide is better if the image is simple like those shown on the right.

Images can be projected thru windows and use of the hands to cause the image to appear and disappear can be very effective. Keeping the projector hidden from view can add to the mystery. Experiment with what works best for you and your situation.

Anyone needing help creating slides or getting slides contact myself and I can help.  
[designerlrc@comcast.net](mailto:designerlrc@comcast.net)





## A Fantastic Collection of Magic Lantern Christmas Slides from the Victorian Era



<http://www.hillmanweb.com/xmas/magic.html>



From Larry Rakow

### Palm Top 3D Theater creates Pepper's Ghost on the iPhone



A sort of 3D may be coming to an iPhone or iPod touch near you through a new gadget using technology that was developed in 1842 called Pepper's Ghost. Jitsuro Mase, a Japanese artist has created i3DG which converts a 2D images into three layered images that are displayed on three planes using a snap on contraption containing three 45-degree mirrors. The images must be specially designed to be split into three parts, and i3DG then reconnects them for a near 3D effect that can be viewed without glasses. You've probably seen Pepper's Ghost if you've been to a Disney Park, since it's heavily used in The Haunted Mansion and the Twilight Zone Tower of Terror to make characters look like they are appearing out of nowhere.

In the picture above, for instance, the woman is on one screen, while the rest of the room's objects are situated on various other screens. Using see-through glass, all of the images combine into one image, which (if you were

looking at it in real life) would then translate into 3D. The effect can be very impressive, as long as you understand that nothing can move from the front to the back since all there is to work with is three layers. The video after the break will show you just how good it can be under the right circumstances.

To work, the image must be split with the foreground being on top and largest, the mid-ground in the center and bit smaller and the background on the bottom. Everything has to be set backwards, so it can look right when viewed through the mirrors.

Then, snap the i3DG on your iPhone to view it. Since any properly prepared images can work, the i3DG can be used for stills, videos and games, however it only works in portrait mode, the resulting images are rather small and it could be very hard to place buttons for gaming.

There is currently no price, or release date set, so it may never appear at retail, but it is being used for a Palm Top Theater Exhibition by V2, a Dutch center for art and media technology as part of the International Film Festival in Rotterdam at the end of January. A workshop teaching graphic artists how to create content is currently being held. I don't think this has huge potential in terms of commercial use, but it is a very neat effect to see in action.

<http://www.iphonedownloadblog.com/2010/11/16/3d-movies-iphone/>

## So What is the Latest Lantern Slides were Used

Some entries have come in but we need more!

from Mark Butterworth's collection, an item featured in the *Gazette Volume 9, Number 2*, slides of the space shuttle. Mark's description speaks for itself on the oddity of the space shuttle image on a lantern slide.



1972 NASA press release slide. Mark Butterworth collection.

### The Last Production

The most recent slides in my collection come from an unexpected source. I have a series of 63 3/4" x 4" format slides produced by NASA, mainly dated between 1962 and 1968. A few are early designs for the Space Shuttle, with eight dated March 1972. NASA published final designs for the Shuttle Orbiter that month. These slides would have been part of the public information released to explain the final design configuration. As you can see from the illustration, NASA had its own slide masks. On the reverse side is a NASA Part Number. Obviously, they produced many slides. Interestingly, the most technically advanced organisation in the world probably produced the last astronomical lantern slides.

## So now join us in a simple contest!

Search those slides, catalogs, your past history and any other material you have.

Like these examples we are looking for the latest use of the lantern. Send your example of your latest slide, story or lantern use. Include images and dates.

Prizes awarded for:

- the latest example
- most unique example

Panel of judges to determine winners

Send images and dates of items

[Click here for email Larry.](#)



**Deadline  
Jan 2, 2011**

## The Survival of the Magic Lantern

**Kentwood D. Wells**

We often think of the magic lantern as a 19th century device, but in fact, the use of lantern-slide projectors survived for decades into the 20th century, especially in academic settings such as classrooms and scientific conferences. Here is an announcement for the 1957 annual meeting of the American Chemical Society:

“Rooms in these locations will be equipped with a standard lantern-slide projector, screen, blackboard, pinter, chalk, and a reading desk with a public address attachment. An attempt will be made to furnish motion picture and other special projectors upon the request of divisions or individuals....”

It also is amusing to read the hotel room rates for this conference: \$5.00-\$8.00 per night for a single room.